

City of San Diego
Clean Syringe Exchange Program Facilitation Committee
June 3, 2004

12:00 p.m.
Civic Center Plaza
1200 Third Avenue, 9th Floor Conference Room
San Diego, CA

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the chair at approximately 12:10 p.m.

Members Present:

Cynthia Burke
Jim Dunford
Kathy Evans-Calderwood
Debra Fischle-Faulk
Mike Franz
Adrian Kwiatkowski, Alternate for Linda Lloyd
Robert Lewis, Alternate for Fran Butler-Cohen
Michael Powers
Lt. Cesar Solis
Leslie Wade

Staff Present:

Lisa Foster
Staajabu Heshimu

Guests Present:

Sherry Acayan
Martin Chevalier
Donna Dow
Lora Folsom
Vicki Granowitz
Joel Harrison
Jim Varnadore
Larry Westfall

2. Self-Introductions

Dr. Dunford asked for self-introductions of those present.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of May 6, 2004

The minutes were not completed. Item tabled to the meeting of July 1, 2004.

4. Status Reports

a. Family Health Centers of San Diego –Bob Lewis

Mr. Lewis distributed the most recent operations statistics, nothing that exchange program services were steady and there was nothing outstanding or unusual to report.

b. San Diego Police Department – Lt. Cesar Solis

Lt. Cesar Solis reported that “it’s been quiet.”

c. San Diego Association of Governments – Dr. Cynthia Burke

Dr. Burke reported that SANDAG concluded and delivered the final evaluation report on time last month. Leslie Wade asked what percentage of exchange program clients are homeless versus those that actually live downtown. Dr. Burke said that information is in the final report.

b. City Manager’s Office

Ms. Heshimu reported on a meeting she attended with Bill Baber of the Mayor’s Office along with Debra Fischle-Faulk and Deputy City Attorney Lisa Foster. The meeting was held to strategize and schedule the Facilitation Committee’s presentation to the City Council. Mr. Baber made no commitment to schedule the presentation in early August as anticipated. He recommended that the report be received first by the Council’s Public Safety and Neighborhood Services Committee and that a decision as to whether the Land Use and Housing Committee also receive the report before it came to the full Council be decided after the recommendations were completed. Ms. Foster added that she agreed that Council members were likely to want to make changes to the draft Ordinance and that modifications were most efficiently done in Committee. She also said it was probably better that the Council not have the first reading of the Ordinance just prior to a recess because of the requirement to have the second reading within two or three weeks. It was noted the timeline would need to be adjusted and Ms. Heshimu agreed to bring a revised timeline to the next meeting.

c. City Attorney's Office – Lisa Foster

Deputy City Attorney Lisa Foster reported that there are just a few core issues to be resolved and that she believes these can be addressed in one or two meetings. She presented a “buffer zone” map for the Committee to view showing the effects of setting the buffer zone around schools, libraries, parks and recreation centers at 300, 500 and 1,000 feet. Obviously, in a dense residential community, there is less land available to site an exchange program if the buffer zone is set at the highest level. This is one issue that is yet to be resolved before the Ordinance can be completed. Ms. Heshimu suggested that because the Ordinance must reflect the final Committee recommendations, that work on the Ordinance be put aside and revisited after the recommendations are developed.

5. Community Impact Subcommittee – Status Reports

- a. North Park Survey – Ms. Heshimu reported that Dr. Hofsteter and Dr. Baer, both SDSU professors, have necessarily been busy with tasks associated with the end of semester. However, work on the survey analysis continues. Dr. Hofsteter said it would be helpful if the Facilitation Committee formed a series of questions they would like addressed as a way to “focus” the research report. Dr. Dunford drafted a series of questions (see attached) for the Committee's review and asked staff to forward these to Dr. Hofsteter.

Ms. Wade asked for a copy of the final survey instrument to be distributed to Committee members.

- b. East Village Focus Group – Ms. Heshimu shared the proposed draft letter/questionnaire to be sent to businesses and community groups in the downtown area. She received input from the Committee and asked Mr. Kwiatkowski for contact information on any residents in the area of the exchange program that should receive the questionnaire. The letters will be mailed in the next week.

6. New Business: Develop Recommendations to City Council for the future of Syringe Exchange in San Diego based on the Pilot Study.

Dr. Dunford asked everyone to come prepared to concentrate on development of the recommendations at the July 1 meeting, which will be scheduled for two (2) hours. He invited everyone to bring a lunch. It was suggested that the Committee

begin by receiving verbal reports from SANDAG, the San Diego Police Department and the SDSU researchers on the final evaluation, crime analysis and North Park survey, respectively. Leslie Wade suggested that formulation of the actual recommendations be facilitated. Ms. Heshimu said she would ask Jeanine Hillis of the City's Organizational Effectiveness Program to facilitate; Ms. Hillis will be invited to attend the July Committee meeting.

7. Roundtable/Public Comment

There was no additional Roundtable/Public Comment.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting is July 1, 2004

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:10 p.m.